CERTIFIED MAIL: RETUKN RECEIPT REQUESTED (7015 1520 0003 4072 5561)

REPLY TO: 6WQ-NP

FEB 2 3 2018

Honorable J. Robert Benavides Governor Pueblo of Isleta P.O. Box 1290 Isleta, NM 87022

Re: Proposed Reissuance of Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority-Southside WWTP, NPDES Permit No. NM0022250;

Dear Governor Benavides:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is in the process of reissuing the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the municipal wastewater discharge from the referenced above facility. The Pueblo of Isleta has Tribal waters located proximally downstream of discharge from the facility and therefore has the right to review and provide input on the proposed permit under Clean Water Act (CWA) §401(a)(2).

If, after review of the attached permit, the Pueblo of Isleta determines that discharge authorized under the draft permit would affect the quality of Tribal waters so as to violate any Tribal water quality requirement, you may notify EPA Region 6 in writing, within sixty (60) days from the date of this letter, of your objection to issuance of the permit. If you do not reply within this time period, your rights under CWA §401(a)(2) shall be deemed waived.

Any objection should include information on the specific water quality requirement that would be violated; the analysis that leads to this conclusion, and permit conditions that could be added or modified to insure compliance with applicable water quality requirements. You may also submit other comments on the permit either at the same time or during the normal public notice period for the draft permit.

We look forward to continued cooperation with the Pueblo of Isleta in protecting the waters of the United States. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me, or have your staff contact Tung Nguyen at 214-665-7153 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:nguyen.tung@epa.gov">nguyen.tung@epa.gov</a>.

Sincerely yours,

David F. Garcia, P.E. Acting Director Water Division

Enclosures